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WACHTER,THEMANOFAGADIR

formed Caillaux Cabinet, expressed to the German Ambassador his keen regret at the decision. He desired a conversation about Morocco, but the despatch of a ship would modify the situation, and public opinion would find it difficult to accept the motive alleged. In asking Grey's views and advice he added that France might be compelled to send a ship to Mogador. The British Government, replied Grey, had decided not to send a ship to Agadir. The treaty obligations to France in the forthcoming discussions would be fulfilled, and England would share in the negotiations. France should say whether she wished to return to the Algeciras system or to purchase German consent to a change.

On July 3 Grey told Metternich that the situation must be considered by the Cabinet, but the German Government should be informed at once that we regarded it as new and important. It was also very delicate, and public opinion in England and elsewhere should not be inflamed. The German action was very abrupt. British commercial interests in Morocco were considerably larger than theirs. We could not remain passive spectators of a new settlement made between Germany, France and Spain to replace the Algeciras Act, but must share in the discussion. The Foreign Secretary's tone, reported the Ambassador, though not sharp, was serious.

Nest day, July 4, after a Cabinet meeting, Grey made a still more weighty communication. "We must take into consideration our treaty obligations to France and our own interests in Morocco. We were of opinion that a new situation had been created by the despatch of a German ship to Agadir. Future developments might affect British interests more directly than they had hitherto been affected, and therefore we could not recognize any new arrangement which

